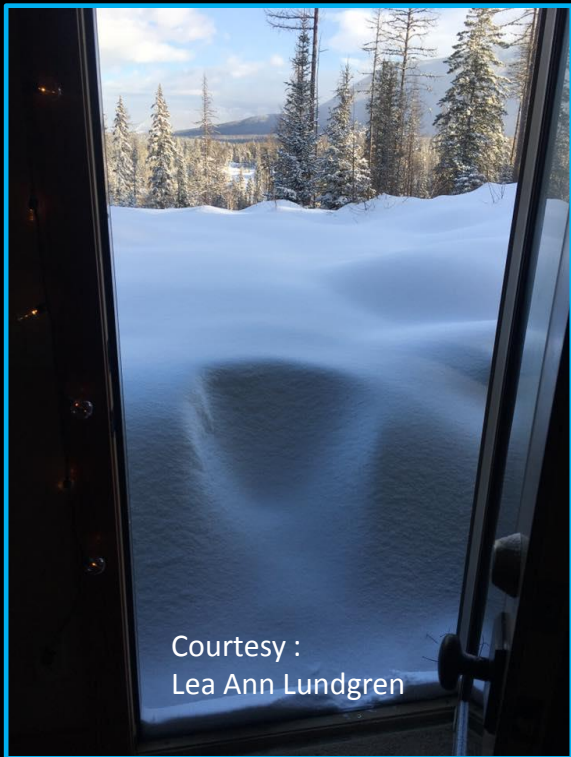


# Northwest Montana Heavy Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2017



Courtesy :  
Lea Ann Lundgren



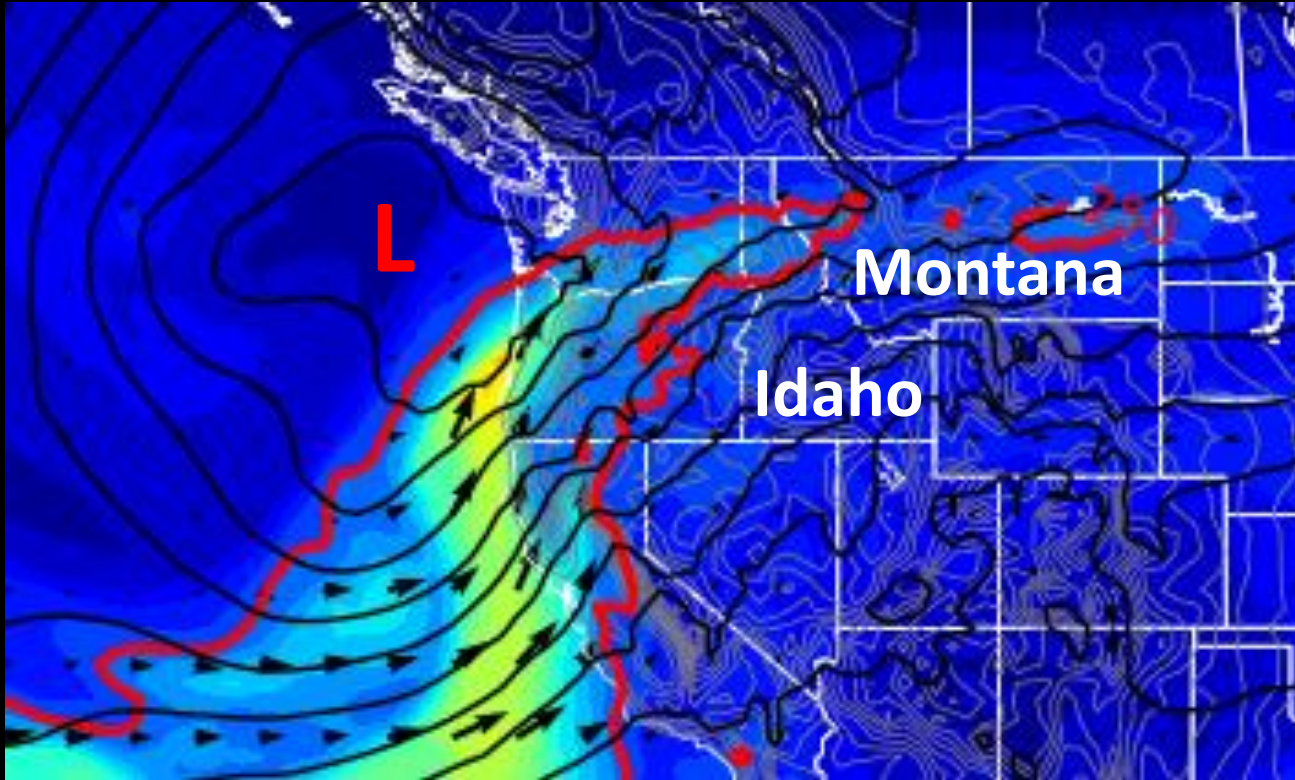
Courtesy :  
Madelon Martin



**NWS Missoula**



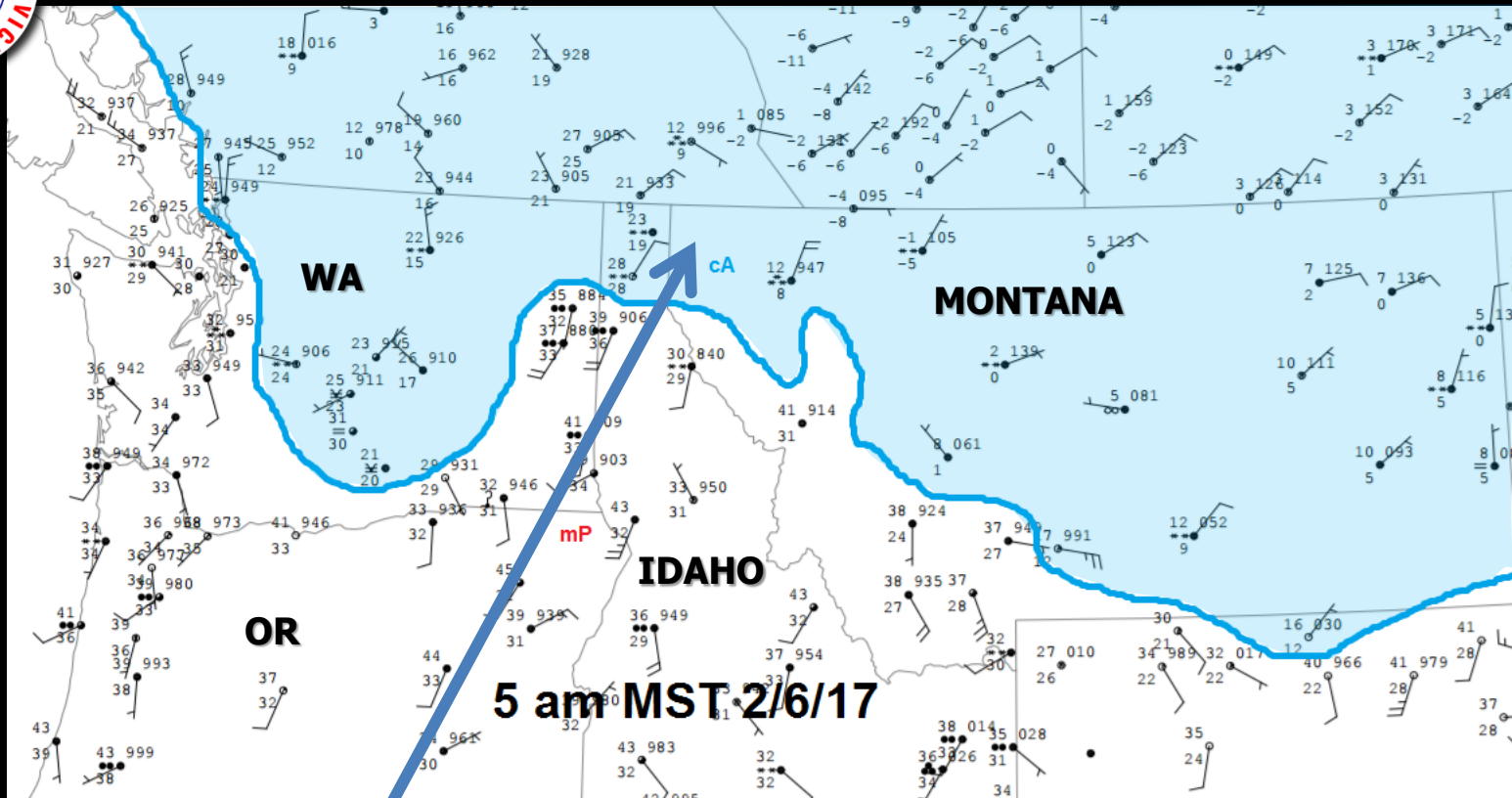
# Moisture Influx 5 pm MST 2/5/17



**Pacific moisture continued to move over the cold arctic air in place across NW MT Feb. 5**



# Arctic Boundary valid 5am MST 2/6/17

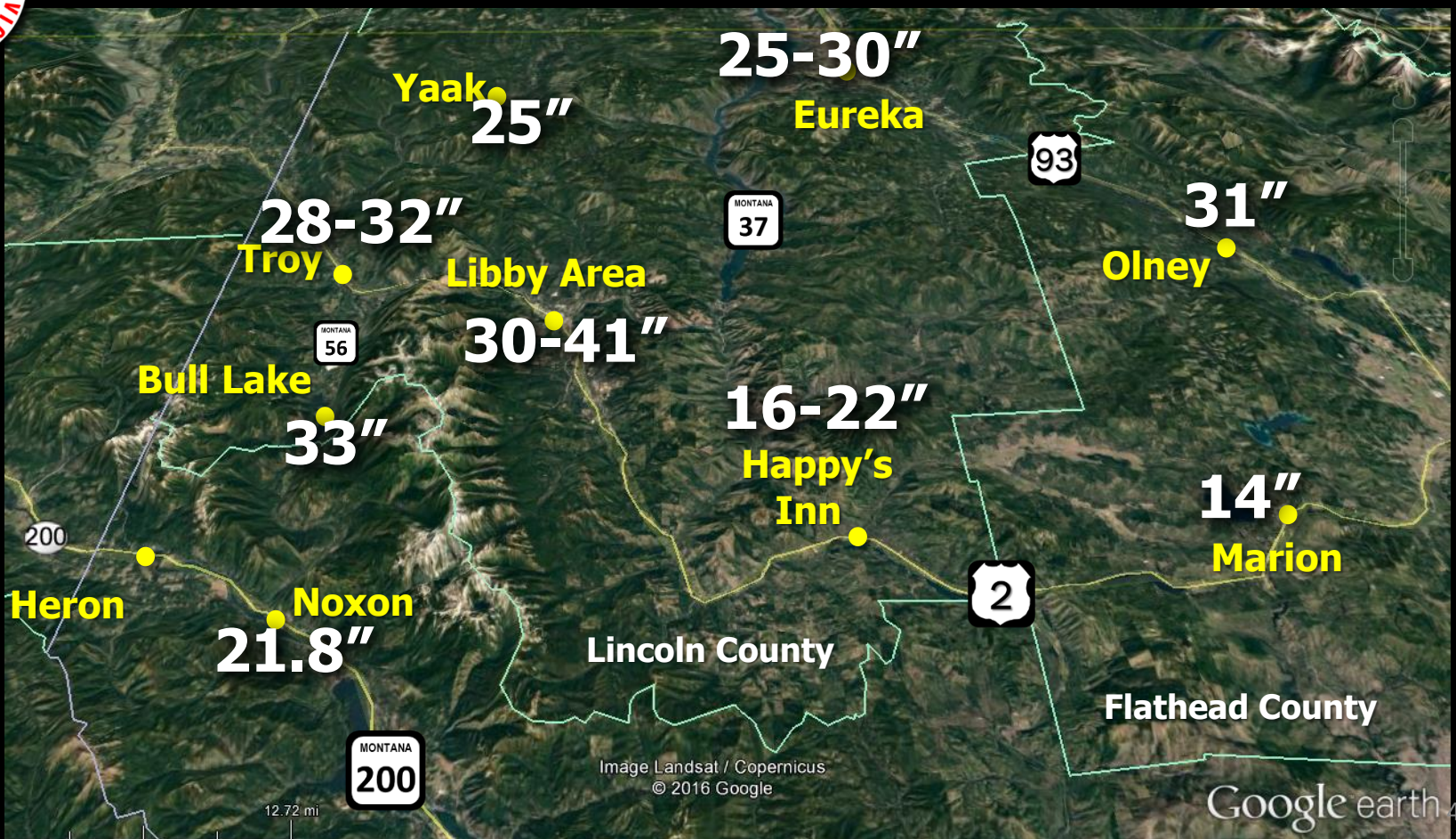


A lot of available cold air across northwest Montana.





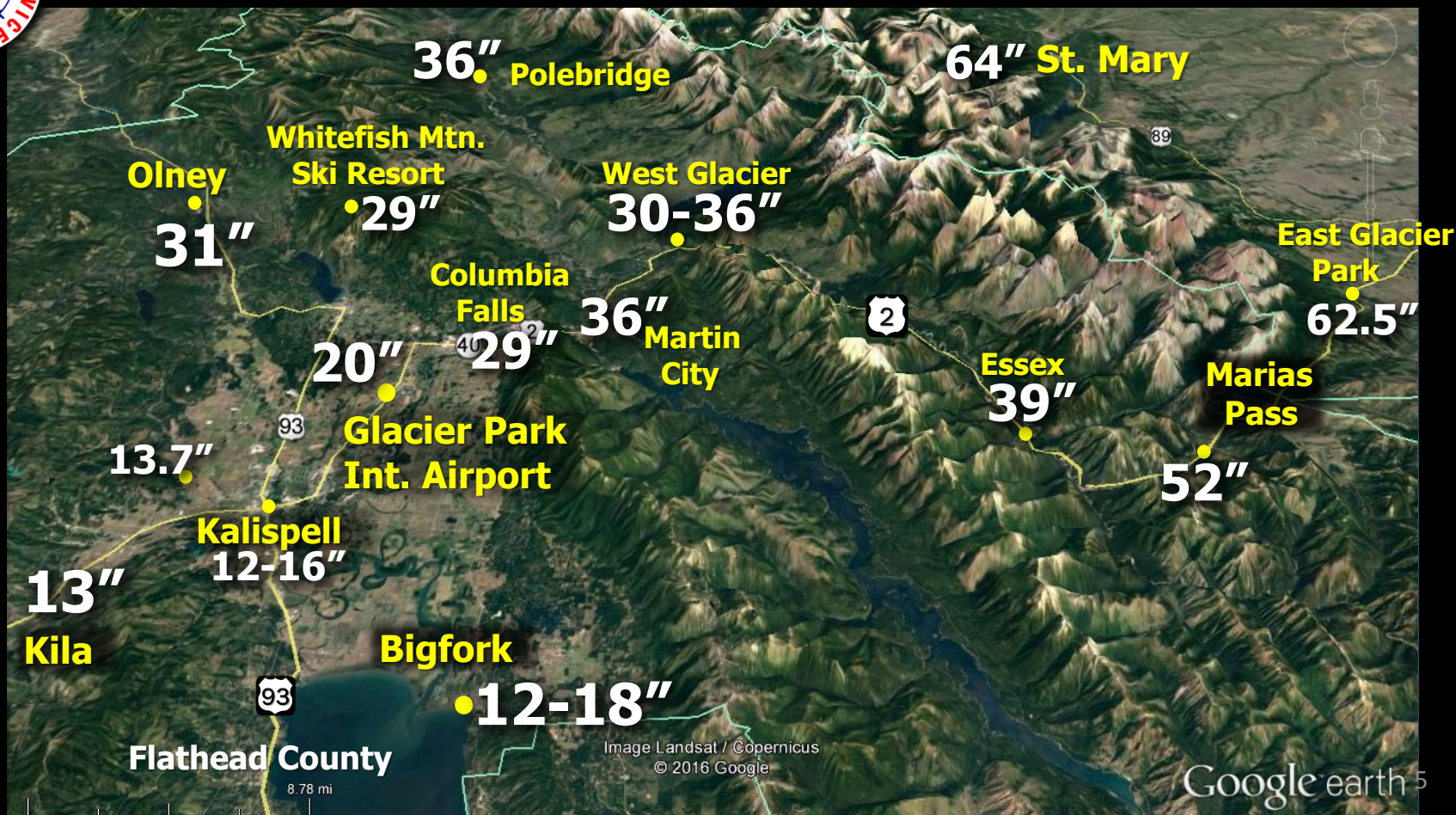
# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016







# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016





# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Troy Area:**

- The Troy area received an unofficial amount ranging between 28 and 32 inches over a 4-day period ending on February 6.
- The official records show that the maximum 4-day total snowfall ever reported in the Troy area was 28.8 inches ending December 30, 1984.
  - The Troy climate station's period of record ranged between 1960 and 2016.

- **Bull Lake:**

- The Bull Lake area, along Highway 56, received an unofficial snowfall amount of 33.0 inches over a 4-day period ending on February 6.
- Interesting to note: a CoCoRAHS observer located nine miles north-northwest of Noxon(or about 8 miles south of Bull Lake) recorded a 4-day total snowfall of 38.5 inches ending December 20, 2008.



# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Libby Area:**

- The Libby area received an unofficial amount ranging between 36 and 41 inches over the 4-day period ending on February 6.
- The official records show that the all-time maximum 4-day total snowfall ever reported in the Libby area was 29 inches ending January 6, 1966.
  - The Libby area's semi-continuous official records began in 1911.
- The unofficial snow depth was 48 inches in Libby on Feb. 6. The official all-time highest 1-day snow depth was 38 inches reported on Dec. 29 and Dec. 30 of 1996.



# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Eureka Area:**

- The Eureka area unofficial snowfall amounts ranged between 25 and 30 inches over the 4-day period ending on February 6.
- The official records show that the all-time maximum 4-day total snowfall ever reported at the Eureka Ranger Station was 24.2 inches ending December 22, 1964
  - Eureka RS records began in 1960.
- It is worthy to remark that the highest 4-day total in Rexford (5 miles west of Eureka) was 34.0 inches ending January 25, 1954(records there were from 1951 to 1960).
- Also to note is the 4-day total of 29 inches ending December 16, 1917 from the COOP station that was located one mile north of Fortine(10 miles southeast of Eureka).
  - This station's climate period of record ranged from 1906 to 2009.





# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Olney Area:**

- Unofficial snowfall amounts up to 31 inches were reported for the 4-day period ending on February 6.
- The official records show that the maximum 4-day total snowfall ever reported was 41 inches ending January 9, 1991 and also February 17, 1986.
  - The Olney COOP data period of record began in 1962.
- It's interesting to mention that 61.6 inches was observed over a 4-day period ending February 28, 1919 in Stryker which is located about 12 miles NW of Olney.
  - The Stryker climate station only reported between 1914 and 1920.



# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Kalispell Area:**
  - The official snowfall total over the 4-day period ending February 6 at the Glacier International Airport was 20 inches.
  - This only ranked 17<sup>th</sup> highest maximum 4-day total snowfall total with 26.8 inches being the highest on record ending January 3, 2009.
  - The Kalispell climate record began in 1899.
  - Lower snowfall amounts were reported towards Kila because the cold air was more shallow causing a fair amount of freezing rain.



# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **West Glacier:**

- The unofficial snowfall amounts ranged between 30 and 36 inches over the 4-day period ending February 6 in the West Glacier area.
- The official records show that the all-time maximum 4-day total snowfall ever reported in the West Glacier area was 34 inches ending January 12, 1957 and also ending January 17, 1954.
- West Glacier's available records began in 1948.

- **Essex:**

- The unofficial snowfall amount of 39 inches fell over the 4-day period ending February 6.
- A COOP station that operated between 1951 and 1970 recorded a maximum 4-day total of 34.0 inches ending February 26, 1956.





# Storm Total Snowfall Feb. 3-6, 2016

- **Marias Pass:**
  - Though we did not have a report of total snowfall from Marias Pass, there was an unofficial reading of 52 inches, located approximately 6 miles to the southwest of the pass.
  - An official climate station that was co-located with Marias Pass, called "Summit", and operated between 1903 and 1979, reported a maximum 4-day snowfall total of 66.0 inches ending January 22, 1972.